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Message Text

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PAGE 01 BEIRUT 03365 181234Z

44
ACTION NEA-01

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---------- 100291
O R 181135Z MAR 75
FM AMEMBASSY BEIRUT
TO USINFO WASHDC IMMEDIATE
SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 3407
INFO AMEMBASSY AMMAN
AMEMBASSY CAIRO
AMEMBASSY DAMASCUS
AMEMBASSY JIDDA
AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV
AMCONSUL JERUSALEM

UNCLAS BEIRUT 3365

USIA FOR IOP/M, IBS, IPS, INA

E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS/ SOPN, PFOR, XF, LE
SUBJECT: MEDIA REACTION: SECRETARY'S MIDEAST MISSION

1. SUMMARY. LOCAL POLITICAL SITUATION AGAIN OVERSHADOWS SECRETARY'S MISSION, AND HEADLINES OF MISSION COVERAGE CONTINUE TO REFLECT LACK OF CONCRETE RESULTS. EDITORIAL COMMENT LIMITED TO TWO PAPERS. LEADING INDEPENDENT "AN-NAHAR" CALLS ON U.S. TO PRESSURE ISRAEL, SINCE, IN ITS VIEW, U.S. ABILITY TO DO SO IS THE RAISON D'ETRE OF SECRETARY'S MEDIATION. PRO-SOVIET "ASH-SHA'B" ATTACKS SECRETARY'S EFFORTS AS DESIGNED TO SERVE ISRAEL ALONE. END SUMMARY.

2. LEADING INDEPENDENT "AN-NAHAR" HEADLINES: "SADAT STUDIES 'ISRAEL'S PROPOSALS' DURING NIGHT ... AND KISSINGER TRANSMITS ANSWER TO TEL AVIV TODAY." LEADING PRO-EGYPTIAN "AL-ANWAR" HEADLINES: "KISSINGER LEAVES ASWAN TODAY CARRYING EGYPTIAN REPLY." LEADING LEFTIST PRO-PLO "AL-MUHARRIR" HEADLINES: "KISSINGER IN ASWAN: AMERICAN SECRETARY ON WAY TO PRESENTING AMERICAN FORMULA TO REPLACE
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WIDELY SEPARATED EGYPTIAN AND ISRAELI 'IDEAS'."

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PRO-SYRIAN "ASH-SHARQ" HEADLINES: "EGYPT HARDENS ITS
POSITION FOLLOWING ISRAEL'S REJECTION OF 70 PER CENT OF
ITS IDEAS."

3. MICHEL ABU JAWDEH, CHIEF EDITOR OF LEADING INDEPENDENT
"AN-NAHAR", WRITES IN FRONT-PAGE EDITORIAL: "FAILURE OF
MISSION WOULD MEAN THAT EGYPT WOULD RETURN TO SOVIET UNION
AND THAT AMERICA'S POLICY WOULD COLLAPSE IN ARAB OIL FIELDS.
U.S. MUST CHOOSE BETWEEN PUTTING PRESSURE ON ISRAEL, WHICH IS
NOT STRONG ENOUGH TO BE OBSTINATE WERE AMERICA TO ABANDON IT,
AND LETTING EGYPT RETURN TOWARDS THE EAST,
WITH ALL REPERCUSSIONS THIS WOULD HAVE IN WORLD OF OIL ARABS,
WHO ARE THE ONES SUPPORTING EGYPT'S AMERICAN POLICY. IF
AMERICA DOES NOT PUT PRESSURE ON ISRAEL, WHO WILL?
INDEED, WHY HAVE AMERICAN MEDIATION IF IT IS
FOUND THAT IT HAS PUT PRESSURE ONLY ON ARABS? IF ISRAEL IS
TO CONFRONT AMERICAN SECSTATE WITH INABILITY TO ACT AND WITH
ALL WELL KNOWN OLD COMPLEXES, PARTICULARLY ON SECURE
BORDERS AND ENDING STATE OF BELLIGERENCY, WHAT DIFFERENCE
IS THERE BETWEEN AMERICA'S REPRESENTATIVE AND THAT OF
ANY SMALL STATE ATTEMPTING TO MEDIATE IN ARAB-ISRAELI
DISPUTE?"

4. MUHAMMAD AMIN DUGHAN, PUBLISHER AND CHIEF EDITOR OF
PRO-SOVIET "ASH-SHA'B", WRITES IN FRONT-PAGE EDITORIAL:
"WESTERN MEDIA HAVE BEGUN TO TALK ABOUT POSSIBLE FAILURE
OF DR. KISSINGER... UNDOUBTEDLY, THIS
MEDIA CAMPAIGN CARRIES WITH IT SEEDS OF PSYCHOLOGICAL
PRESSURE ON ARABS TO FORCE THEM TO OFFER NEW CONCESSSIONS
TO EXPANSIONIST ZIONIST ENTITY IN NAME OF PEACE AND
SECURITY... WE APPEAL TO EVERY ARAB LEADER, WHEREVER HE
MAY BE, TO RISE ABOVE REGIONAL AND FACTIONAL INTERESTS AND
ACT ON PAN-ARAB BASIS. WE DO NOT BELIEVE THAT ANY ARAB CAN
BE UNAWARE OF FACT THAT KISSINGER'S MISSION IS NOT MEANT TO
ACHIEVE PEACE, BUT TO GIVE ISRAEL PEACE BASED ON OCCUPATION,
EXPANSION, DOMINATION, AND SUBJUGATION."
GODLEY

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TAGS: SOPN, PFOR, XF, LE, (KISSINGER, HENRY A)
To: USIA STATE
Type: TE
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